

wallows in the gutter or reels along the street; how degrading and disgusting the sight; yet he will take to his lips the same poisonous cup that made a brute of his brother, or of that boy who was once his bright-eyed school-mate.

It reminds us of the story of the wasp who kept entering the bottle of honey in which were other wasps that had perished in their folly. A man watching it says, "why are you so silly", why says the wasp; "I am just like you men who see men overcome and destroyed by the cup, yet you continue to follow until you too go down."

EVIL ASSOCIATIONS.

The first step towards the cup is bad company. If you are always in good company you are not liable to be led into this evil; as you are not going into it alone, but bad companions know the way, and before you are aware of it you have been entrapped.

Along your pathway are many pitfalls, many precipices over which others have went down, and as you go near them, before you are aware of it, you have fallen head-long into the pit, or over the precipice. We would warn you "don't step there." The billiard halls are among the first towards a wreckless life. "Don't step there" young man; the dancing hall another "don't step there."

"My son give me thy heart" is the language of holy writ; young man give your heart to Jesus and he will keep it clean.

We notice

THIS SERPENT FASTENED itself upon Paul's hand before he was aware of it so this evil, strong drink is fastening itself upon us as a nation, costing us millions of dollars to feed, clothe and bury thousands of paupers brought to poverty through this evil.

It is costing us millions to prosecute and care for the thousands of criminals made such by this serpent in the bowl. This serpent has fastened itself upon us a nation, necessitating the building of jails and penitentiaries to care for these men, who, crazed by the poison have committed crime. The question that should sink deep into our souls as fathers and mothers is, who are going to furnish the boys in the next ten, fifteen, or twenty years. These criminals are leaving their cells, one by one

and are being borne to the prison grave yard upon the hill side who are going to take their places, they have been occupied, they will be again. Each year, hundreds of graves open to receive their prey, they have been filled, they will be filled again. Father shall it be that bright-eyed boy of yours? God forbid that it should be my boy. "God save the boys."

This serpent has fastened itself upon us as a state in the name of High License bringing poverty, ruin and disruption into many homes once happy and prosperous. It is trying to fasten itself more firmly upon our fair western city, by bringing into it the devil's school room,—the saloon.

Men and women in our midst are to day suffering in want because of this evil.

Again

IT IS FASTENING ITSELF UPON INDIVIDUALS, you need not go to Chicago, Omaha, or New York City where are millions of sufferers. But since last October, since I have been a resident, of this country, an innocent man losing his life, taken from his family in the prime of life; another man deprived of his liberty for months and home comforts, with the blood of an innocent man upon his hands, another man loses his limb, his family in destitute circumstances, he is left a burden to them, besides three suffering families. The serpent in the bowl has done it.

Yes, but says the young man, I can control myself; may I tell you that the brightest intellects, the brightest minds that the world has produced, have been overthrown by this demon, has come from the highest stations in life, down to fill a drunkard's grave, you may be an exception but if you continue placing it to your lips, it will fasten itself upon you as the serpent did on Paul's hand. And you will find your will power paralyzed; self control lost, and you ruined for time and eternity.

Again we learn that Paul

SHOOK THE SERPENT OFF.

Can this nation shake it off? Yes, just as Paul did; through God's help.

There has been a great deal accomplished in the last ten years by the W. C. T. U's.; the Y. M. C. A's., the Y. P. S. C. E's., and kindred organizations, and whenever Christian men and

women do their duty, then we will shake this serpent from off this nation; state and from Beaver City.

In conclusion let me say to you young man, come into the church, give God your heart and service and by his help and the help of God's people, their prayers and assistance you may shake off the beast and keep yourself from its poisonous fangs.

Paul felt no harm; not so with this serpent, "a reformed man is a damaged man, a reformed nation is a damaged nation. If the viper has ever fastened upon you, and you shake it off; yet you will be harmed by it."

TOUCH NOT, TASTE NOT, HANDLE NOT.

"My soul be on thy guard,

Ten thousand foes arise;

And hosts of sin are pressing hard,
To draw thee from the skies."

J. R. KELLER.

Beaver City, Neb. April 1.

Essays and Contributions.

"NON RESISTANCE." (?)

BY J. M. BOWMAN.

From the "bumps" of the head of this article it may safely be concluded that at the beginning at least a subject is to be discussed which is an open one, as in fact all Bible teaching should be, in the sense of being open to yield yet more of the truth that it seeks to teach. On the program for the last meeting of National Ministerial Association of the church is found "Non-Resistance" as one of the topics of discussion; it was however not discussed. It is quite often named the "Doctrine of Non-Resistance." Now I am sure that very many of us have been very much influenced by the thought of the "Doctrine of Non-Resistance" but generally in a very vague and really worthless way because of the vagueness of our knowledge of its teaching and often the entire absence of knowledge concerning God's word and will in this particular. We will waive our own opinions and disregard the opinions that may be held by any person or body of persons and seek in God's word for light and truth; for we can do this in safety at all times and on any subject, while opinions and theories are always unsafe bottom in which to anchor.